

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY China
 SUBJECT Economic; Sociological - Flood control

DATE OF
 INFORMATION 1950

HOW
 PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 30 Aug 1950

WHERE
 PUBLISHED Hankow; Shanghai; Peiping

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE
 PUBLISHED 20 - 22 Jul 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Chinese

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
 OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50
 U. S. C., 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION
 OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED
 BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH CHINA REGIONAL DISTRICT TAKES FLOOD MEASURES;
NORTH ANHWEI FLOODS CONSTITUTE MAJOR CALAMITY

ORDERS URGENT PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FLOODS -- Hankow Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao,
 22 Jul 50

Hankow (Central and South China District News Office) -- The Central and
 South China Military and Administrative Committee has just issued Urgent Order
 No Ching-tzu-0117 pertaining to precautions against floods. The main points
 of the order are:

A sudden rise in the Yangtze River took place during the first 10 days of
 July 1950. At Sha-shih it reached a height only 0.2 meter below the highest
 level of recent years. The Kung-an People's Diike and the main river dike near
 the Hua-yen-ssu Temple have already been breached. There are also a score or
 more weak points which, although hurriedly patched up, still are a source of
 danger, for the river may rise still further.

The peril in which the dikes along the Ching Chiang (1) [numbers refer to
 appended characters] stand has not yet been removed. The Tung-t'ing Hu is al-
 ready full. If the high-water peak should arrive extra early, the lands border-
 ing the lake and those on both sides of the river below the lake would be in
 danger of serious inundation.

Magistrates and special commissioners are ordered to see that ample pre-
 cautionary measures are taken wherever dangerous conditions exist and should
 personally encourage and supervise the mobilization of men and materials and
 the execution of the work so that the crisis may be safely passed. Reprimands
 or punishment are to be administered to those who are indolent and irresponsi-
 ble.

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION			CONFIDENTIAL									
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
			DISTRIBUTION									

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

TO STUDY ANHWEI FLOODS -- Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 22 Jul 50

Peiping, 20 July (Hsin-hua) -- In view of the disastrous floods in North Anhwei, the Ministry of Water Conservancy of the Central government instructed the engineering staff of the Water-Conservancy Department of the East China regional government to take emergency measures immediately to cope with the situation, and on 18 July 1950, the Water-Conservancy Department dispatched to the affected locality a team of high-ranking conservancy officials headed by Hsu K'ai (2), head of the ministry's General Planning Commission and chief of its Technical Planning Office, and including two hydraulic engineers and a staff member of the Staff Office. Their instructions were to assist the East China officials in general, and in particular to make on-the-spot investigations so as to secure a thorough understanding of the situation which could serve as reference material in the task of formulating a thorough-going plan for the regulation of the Huai Ho.

FLOOD-PREVENTION CONFERENCE CALLED ON HUAI HO -- Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 22 Jul 50

Shanghai -- To expedite and strengthen the flood-prevention measures in the Huai Ho basin, a conference was convened in Pang-fou on 14 July 1950 by the North Anhwei Flood-Prevention Commission. In attendance were members of the Inspection Party for the North Anhwei Flooded Districts; Huang Yen (3), director of the North Anhwei Field Office and his deputy, Cheng Pao-tien (4); the commissioners of all the districts along the Huai Ho, and the responsible men in the Public Works offices in all the districts along the middle and upper sections of the river. Among the decisions reached were:

The most pressing task is to save the situation in the section west of Cheng-yang-kuan. The middle section below Cheng-yang-kuan is of practically equal importance and the dikes there should be saved wherever possible. It was further decided to establish the headquarters of the North Anhwei Flood-Prevention Commission at Pang-fou, with Chang T'ai-ch'ing in charge.

Regarding expenses, it was decided that the North Anhwei Field Office should appropriate a further 2,360,000 catties of rice, in addition to the 5,500,000 catties of food made available by the East China Water-Conservancy Department. The flood-relief working party of the North Anhwei section and two battalions of the North Anhwei Military District troops are to work in affected areas along the river.

The conference discussed the weaknesses of the flood-prevention measures hitherto taken. It must be admitted that the flood this year exceeds all past records and that all the main and branch dikes were inadequate to afford protection. Nevertheless, it is evident that there was on the part of the authorities a callous indifference to imminent danger and a lack of a sense of responsibility for suitable action, due to which, measures that would have prevented extensive losses were not taken. For instance, the sluice at Chang-chia-kou, near Huai-yuan, was known to be leaky, but no one instituted measures to repair it, with the result that on 2 July 1950 it was washed away. Even then the seriousness of the condition was not appreciated, and when the big flow of the Huai Ho came and thought was given to the necessity of repair, the breach was already 80 meters wide and some 2 million mou of tillable land were inundated. A similar situation developed at the Ts'ao-shan lock in Feng-yang Hsien. In other places where preventive measures were taken, it was already too late to be effective. Food appropriated for relief by the Fou-yang Hsien government was, according to the announcement, to be distributed at Liu-an; however, up to the present, flood victims entitled to that food have received nothing.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONSERVANCY MEASURES RELIEVE DISASTER VICTIMS -- Shanghai Ta Kung Pao, 20 Jul 50

Shanghai -- The report of the chief of the Water-Conservancy Department of the East China Military and Administrative Committee, Leng Yu (5), contains the following information concerning the work of his department.

Apart from work on the Yellow River done under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Water Conservancy of the Central government, this department has carried out repairs and constructive projects on the dikes of the Yangtze River, the Huai Ho, the Grand Canal, the sea wall of the Chekiang-Kiangsu coast, the new discharge channels for the I Ho and Shu Ho, on spillways and locks, on dredging of silted up channels, on irrigation canals, and for the prevention of soil erosion.

In the aggregate, 193,711,141 cubic meters of earthwork have been completed, which is 41 percent greater than the volume of work accomplished by the KMT government in 1932. During the winter season of 1950, 964,000 men participated in the work; during the spring season the number was increased to 2,908,000 men, and there is no means of knowing how many were engaged in the concomitant work of transportation of food and construction materials.

Regarding the expense of this work, besides the 430 million catties of rice reported by Vice-chairman Tseng as provided by the Military and Administrative Committee, various provincial and sectional governments also provided 230 million catties of cereals. In addition, there were 60 million catties supplied for the subsistence of poor people evacuated from Shanghai, and loans made available for irrigation projects. Altogether, since last winter more than 750 million catties of cereals have been provided, which is 20 percent of all the grain collected as taxes in all the East China region.

Directly or indirectly, this food distributed in return for labor solved the livelihood problem for 5,655,000 persons through the famine period. Common among the people was the saying, "Nature destroys people, the Communist regime saves people." Thus it may be seen that the work of the Water-Conservancy Department in alleviating the famine conditions served a very useful purpose.

The time of summer floods is here. The Huai Ho is even higher than the highest mark of 1931. In the Fou-yang section, conditions are already disastrous. On the upper reaches of the Yangtze, the danger level is surpassed and the situation is extremely grave. All our new work is going to be put to the test. To cope with these conditions, the Central government and the East China government have issued urgent instructions. The latter has organized an East China Flood-Prevention Headquarters to unify and coordinate plans and efforts. The Water-Conservancy Department during the last 10 days of June held a conference to discuss lessons learned from the spring conservancy work, and to make plans for the prevention of summer floods. The immediate objective is to insure that through the utmost concerted exertion on the part of the people, the military, and all branches of the government, the 23,880,000 mou of land inundated in 1949 will not be flooded again this year.

The work of the past half year has served to demonstrate that the crux of our difficulties is the Huai Ho and how to provide for it an adequate outlet to the sea. The unsolved problem which it has presented for many years was aggravated in 1938 by the intentional breaching of the southern dike of the Yellow River. The results of this action over a period of 10 years created the conditions to which are attributable the present disastrous floods in Northern Anhwei. The regulation of the Huai Ho has become one of the most pressing problems of the people at large, and one that will require some years to accomplish.

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

COMPLETE CHI-YUN HO IRRIGATION PROJECT -- Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao, 21 Jul 50

Peiping, 19 July (Hsin-hua) -- On 16 July 1950 near Lu-t'ai, Hopeh, a company of some 200 officials and prominent citizens on the national, provincial, and local levels, including two Soviet irrigation specialists, Lysenko and Kulaychev, celebrated the formal opening of the Chi-yun Ho irrigation project and of the nationally operated Kao-li-ch'u farm. Minister of Agriculture, Li Shu-ch'eng, was present and cut the ribbon which signaled the admission of the water of the Chi-yun-ho to the irrigating channels of the farm.

The Kao-li-ch'u farm comprises an area of some 52,000 mou, embracing 18 villages, on the lower reaches of the Chi-yun Ho northwest of Lu-t'ai. This land was acquired by the Japanese by forced sale in 1938. They installed seven pumping stations by which to utilize the water of the Chi-yun Ho to wash out the alkali from the soil, and later to cultivate rice. After V-J Day, the electric motors were carried away and the rest of the installations were left in a ruined condition. After the Communists gained control of North China, the work of rehabilitation was undertaken by the Po-hai Section of the Bureau of Agriculture and Reclamation Control as one of four projects in the area. The other projects were located on the Luan Ho, the Hai Ho, and the Nan-yun Ho. In his remarks at the opening ceremonies, Minister Li stated that the completion of these projects indicated the practical nature of the agricultural development which the People's government was seeking to promote.

CHARACTERS

1. 荆江
2. 許愷
3. 黃岩
4. 鄭抱慎
5. 冷遜

- E N D -

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL